

Opening Meeting Law Updates/Changes March 18, 2015 edition

PAGE	SECTION	PARAGRAPH	LINE	ACTION	
1	Letter from New Attorney General				Maura Healy (previously Martha Coakley)
3	What constitutes a public body	2	1	added	“(including those of charter schools)”
3	What constitutes a public body	2	6-8	added	“This exception for individual officials to the general Open Meeting Law does not apply where such officials are serving as members of a multiple-member public body that is subject to the law.”
4	What constitutes a deliberation	1	8-11	added	“Additionally, certain communications that may otherwise be considered deliberation are specifically exempt by statute from the definition of deliberation...”
7	A note about accessibility	1	last	change	New phone # 617-963-2939
8	What info must meeting notices contain	2-3	all	added	Paragraph 2 eliminated from old summary and a new paragraph 2 & paragraph 3 added.
9	Ten purposes for Executive Session	Section #2	1-8	added	1 paragraph added to #2 of this section
11	Ten purposes for Executive Session	Section #6	1-7	added	1 paragraph added to #6 of this section
11	Ten purposes for Executive Session	Section #7	4-9	added	...”A public body may withhold that...for a claim if challenged.”
13	May a member of a public body participate remotely?	2	1-6	added	1 paragraph added to this section
13	How can the practice of remote participation be adopted?	3		added	Note about Local Commissions on Disability added
15	What public participation in meetings must be allowed?	1	8-10	added	“Although public participation is entirely ... as time permits.”
15	What public participation in meetings must be allowed?	2	6-11	added	“If someone arrives after the meeting has begun... to those in attendance.”
16	Open Session Records	1	2-4	added	“The Open Meeting Law does not provide a definition of ‘timely manner’ ... next meeting whenever possible.”
17	Executive Session Meeting Records	1	2-3	added	“In such circumstances, the body should still respond to the request within 10 days, notifying the requestor that it is conducting this review.”
17	What is the Open Meeting Law procedure?	Step 2 para 1	6-7	added	“While the public body may delegate responsibility for responding to the complaint to counsel or another individual, it must
18	What is the Open Meeting Law procedure?	Step 2 para 2	2	added	“include a copy of the complaint”
18	Filing a Complaint with the Attorney General’s Office	1	9	added	“the date that the violation was reasonably discoverable.”
18	Filing a Complaint with the Attorney General’s Office	2	4-6 and 7-8		“Note, however, that the Attorney General will not review allegations that were not raised in the initial complaint filed with the public body. Under most circumstances” and “...and will be made available to anyone upon request.”